

HERITAGE AREA BULLETIN BOARD APRIL 2003

Another reminder...now is the time to register for the International Heritage Development Conference, June 7-11, 2003, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The program for the conference program is now on line, so if you did not get a conference brochure visit the web site, www.riversofsteel.com, and register now! It is also time to provide an updated list of National Heritage Area contact information. Please review the attached list and provide any corrections or changes. Thanks! (See attached file: heritage areas contact info. DOC)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE*****

Legislative interest in national heritage areas remains high. Since the beginning of the 108th Congress this January, 4 study bills and 11 designation proposals have been introduced. In addition Congressman Hefley has reintroduced the National Heritage Areas Policy Act (H.R. 1427). The individual proposals are as follows:

Study Bills

Northern Neck National Heritage Study Act (H.R. 567 and S.472) Southern Campaign of the Revolution heritage Area Study Act (H.R. 744 and S.276)

A Study of the feasibility and suitability of establishing the St. Croix National Heritage Area in St. Croix United States Virgin Islands (H.R. 1594)

A Special Resource Study of the national significance, suitability and feasibility of establishing Highway 49 in California (H.R. 907)

Designation Bills

To establish the National Aviation Heritage Area Act (H.R. 280 and S.180)

Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area Act of 2003(H.R. 524 and S.230)

Atchafalaya National Heritage Area Act (S.323)

Freedoms Way National heritage Area Act (H.R. 1069 and S.577)

Arabia Mountain National Heritage Area Act (H.R. 1618)

Oil Region National Heritage Area Act (H.R. 1862 and S.912)

Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area Act (H.R. 505 and S. 211)

Great Basin National Heritage Route Act (S.840)

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Act (H.R. 1759 and S.941)

National Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area Act (S. 916)

Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Act (H.R. 1798)

Senator Thomas, Chair of the National Park Service Subcommittee, continues to take an interest in the direction of the program. He has followed up on the Committee's March 13 oversight hearing on heritage areas with other meeting and requests for information.

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS LEVERAGED DOLLARS

Anecdotal evidence has always indicated that heritage areas are effective using partnership strategies to raise money and leverage the funding they receive from the National Park Service. Now we have hard information to back up those claims. A recent

survey by our office shows that heritage areas have leveraged the National Park Service Heritage Partnership dollars with an impressive 1 to 8.7 match. The pie chart below shows the mix of funding sources since the beginning of the program. It is also impressive for the diversity of sources which includes funding from federal Transportation Enhancement, state and local governments, and private (foundations, corporate and individual giving).
(See attached file: Leveraging.final.doc)

RAISING AWARENESS

One of the goals of the National Park Service Heritage Areas initiative is to use every opportunity to raise awareness about the national heritage areas program. Two publications coming out this summer will do just that, by highlighting the past, present and future of the heritage areas movement. On April 14-18, at the George Wright Society Biennial Conference on Preserving our Diverse Heritage, several presenters, including Brent Mitchell from QLF, Nancy Morgan from Cane River NHA, and Brenda Barrett, National Coordinator for Heritage Areas, spoke about the history, diversity and challenges of heritage conservation. Information on the proceedings of the conference and past issues of the George Wright Forum are available at <http://www.georgewright.org/>. A special issue of the George Wright journal containing the presenters' papers will be published this summer. Secondly, the National Trust is highlighting the diversity, and activities of the heritage areas movement in this summer's Forum Journal. Experts and leaders in heritage field will focus on education, planning, land conservation, and heritage tourism. More information on the forum is available at <http://forum.nationaltrust.org/>. Both journals will be comprehensive and informative additions to a small but growing number of publications on heritage areas.

UPCOMING EVENTS*****

International Heritage Development Conference	Pittsburgh	June 7-11
National Trust for Historic Preservation Meeting	Denver	Oct 1-5
(Also the site of the Fall Alliance of National Heritage Areas Meeting)		
Joint Ventures // Partnership Conference	Los Angeles	Nov 17-21